

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously presented) An optical laminate, comprising a cholesteric liquid crystal layer and a quarter-wave plate laminated on the cholesteric liquid crystal layer, wherein

(i) the quarter-wave plate includes at least one layer of a material having a positive intrinsic birefringence value (layer A) and at least one layer of a material having a negative intrinsic birefringence value (layer B),

(ii) the layer A and the layer B having the same molecular chain orientation,

(iii) the quarter-wave plate having a variation in thickness of 5% or less,

(iv) the quarter-wave plate is obtained by stretching a laminate obtained by coextruding the material having a positive intrinsic birefringence value and the material having a negative intrinsic birefringence value, and

(v) the material having a positive intrinsic birefringence value is an alicyclic structure-containing polymer resin having a content of a resin component with a molecular weight of 2000 or less of 5 wt% or less.

10. (Previously presented) The optical laminate according to claim 9, wherein the material having a negative intrinsic birefringence value is a vinyl aromatic polymer.

11. (Previously presented) The optical laminate according to claim 9, wherein the quarter-wave plate has a configuration consisting of the layer A, the layer B, and the layer A, or consisting of the layer B, the layer A, and the layer B.

12. (Previously presented) The optical laminate according to claim 10, wherein the quarter-wave plate has a configuration consisting of the layer A, the layer B, and the layer A, or consisting of the layer B, the layer A, and the layer B.

13. (Previously presented) A polarized light source device, comprising the optical laminate according to claim 9.

14. (Previously presented) A polarized light source device, comprising the optical laminate according to claim 10.

15. (Previously presented) A polarized light source device, comprising the optical laminate according to claim 11.

16. (Previously presented) A polarized light source device, comprising the optical laminate according to claim 12.

17. (Previously presented) The polarized light source device according to claim 13, comprising a light reflecting layer, a light source, and the optical laminate, wherein the light reflecting layer, the light source, and the optical laminate are disposed so that light emitted from the light source is incident on the optical laminate from a side of the cholesteric liquid crystal layer, and reflected circularly polarized light reflected by the optical laminate is reflected by the light reflecting layer and is incident on the optical laminate.

18. (Previously presented) The polarized light source device according to claim 14, comprising a light reflecting layer, a light source, and the optical laminate, wherein the light reflecting layer, the light source, and the optical laminate are disposed so that light emitted from the light source is incident on the optical laminate from a side of the cholesteric liquid crystal layer, and reflected circularly polarized light reflected by the optical laminate is reflected by the light reflecting layer and is incident on the optical laminate.

19. (Previously presented) The polarized light source device according to claim 15, comprising a light reflecting layer, a light source, and the optical laminate, wherein the light reflecting layer, the light source, and the optical laminate are disposed so that light emitted from

the light source is incident on the optical laminate from a side of the cholesteric liquid crystal layer, and reflected circularly polarized light reflected by the optical laminate is reflected by the light reflecting layer and is incident on the optical laminate.

20. (Previously presented) The polarized light source device according to claim 16, comprising a light reflecting layer, a light source, and the optical laminate, wherein the light reflecting layer, the light source, and the optical laminate are disposed so that light emitted from the light source is incident on the optical laminate from a side of the cholesteric liquid crystal layer, and reflected circularly polarized light reflected by the optical laminate is reflected by the light reflecting layer and is incident on the optical laminate.

21. (Previously presented) A liquid crystal display device, comprising the polarized light source device according to claim 13.

22. (Previously presented) A liquid crystal display device, comprising the polarized light source device according to claim 14

23. (Previously presented) A liquid crystal display device, comprising the polarized light source device according to claim 15.

24. (Previously presented) A liquid crystal display device, comprising the polarized light source device according to claim 16.

25. (New) The optical laminate according to claim 9, wherein the quarter-wave plate has a layer A/layer C/layer B/layer C/layer A configuration, the layer A being a layer of a material having a positive intrinsic birefringence value, the layer C being an adhesive layer, and the layer B being a layer of a material having a negative intrinsic birefringence value.

26. (New) A polarized light source device, comprising the optical laminate according to claim 25.

27. (New) The polarized light source device according to claim 26, comprising a light reflecting layer, a light source, and the optical laminate, wherein the light reflecting layer, the light source, and the optical laminate are disposed so that light emitted from the light source is incident on the optical laminate from a side of the cholesteric liquid crystal layer, and reflected circularly polarized light reflected by the optical laminate is reflected by the light reflecting layer and is incident on the optical laminate.

28. (New) A liquid crystal display device, comprising the polarized light source device according to claim 26.

29. (New) The optical laminate according to claim 9, wherein the quarter-wave plate has a layer A/layer C/layer B/layer C/layer A configuration, the layer A being a layer of a material having a positive intrinsic birefringence value, the layer C being an ethylene-(meth)acrylate copolymer adhesive layer, and the layer B being a layer of a material having a negative intrinsic birefringence value.